

Fall Leaf Rubbings

Materials

- Blank paper
- Leaves (I found these on the ground)
- Pencil (If you have charcoal, that will work as well)
- Eraser
- Crayons, colored pencils, markers



Directions

1. Place one leaf under your sheet of paper. Use your pencil and rub over the entire leaf. (I used the side of the lead on my pencil and not the point of it. This will create a smoother and more even leaf rub.)
2. Repeat this leaf rubbing technique on your entire paper. (Try not to overlap your leaves, this could make it difficult to outline later.)



3. Once finished with the leaf rubbings, use your crayons or colored pencils to trace the outline of the leaf.

4. Next, outline the details within the leaf with your coloring utensil of choice. (The main vein that runs down the middle of the leaf called a midrib, the smaller veins within the leaf, and whatever other details were discovered in your leaf rubbing.)



5. After your outline is complete, use an eraser and gently erase the lead from the paper. (Doing this gently is KEY because it could cause smudging of the crayon or the disappearance of colored pencil. Picture about shows the outlines without the lead.)
6. Color in your leaf! (Make sure not to hide the important outline work you did of the veins within the leaf itself.)



**Visit the Wilbur D. May Arboretum and Botanical Garden
to collect a wide variety of leaves for this activity!**